



EMBASSY OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE
SEOUL BUREAU



MSK-6016
2 October 1986

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, FBIS

THROUGH : Acting Chief, Operations Group

SUBJECT : Monthly Report - Seoul Bureau - September 1986

I. GENERAL

1. Domestic political activity in the ROK came to a standstill during September as the country's attention turned to the long-awaited Asian Games, which opened on the 28th and will end 5 October. Nearly 5,000 athletes from 27 countries are participating. Festive opening ceremonies, attended by over 100,000 spectators, were only slightly marred by day-long rain and extremely heavy security measures. Spectators were required to arrive at the main stadium 2 and 1/2 hours before the ceremonies began, and were allowed into the stadium only after passing through two metal detectors and having purses, camera cases, and handbags individually examined. Security measures, which would have been thorough in any case, were toughened after a bomb exploded 14 September outside one of the main entrances to Kimpo International Airport. Five Koreans were killed in the blast and over 20 were injured. ROK officials were quick to note similarities between the Kimpo bombing and the 1983 explosion in Rangoon that killed many ROK cabinet officers and was clearly intended for President Chun. However, ROK condemnation has stopped short of directly blaming the DPRK for the Kimpo incident. Bureau operations were not affected by the bombing, though Embassy officers quickly sought media accounts of the incident monitored by the Bureau, and by Okinawa and Hong Kong as well. Meanwhile, the Games themselves have gone off without a hitch, and the competition has turned into a three-way battle for medals among the PRC, Japan and the ROK. The organizational effort has been a great success -- including minor and not-so-minor touches such as repainting all street-light poles along major thoroughfares and closing virtually all heavy industry for the duration of the Games to decrease pollution levels.

2. Among the foreign dignitaries attending the opening of the Games was Japanese Prime Minister Nakasone, who used the occasion for talks with President Chun in an attempt to repair bilateral relations, which were badly buffeted earlier in the month. Education Minister Masayuki Fujio claimed that the Koreans were partly responsible for the period of Japanese colonization because they formally agreed to Japanese occupation

early in the century. Koreans, who are always suspicious of Japanese intentions, took immediate exception, including calls for a break in diplomatic relations. Fujio was sacked, and Nakasone formally apologized for the remarks. The Bureau provided Embassy officers with reportage and comment from both Korea as well as Japan, as the incident evolved.

3. Ambassador Richard Walker will be leaving Seoul about the end of October, after serving in the position for more than five years. President Reagan has nominated James Lilley, who is currently serving as Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs, to succeed Ambassador Walker. The White House announcement of Lilley's nomination was unusually candid in detailing his previous career with the CIA. Korean and international newspapers quickly published the White House release. The Pacific Stars & Stripes carried perhaps the most eye-catching headline on the front page of its 11 September edition: "Ex-CIA Agent Nominated As Korean Envoy". Lilley is expected to arrive in Seoul late in November.

4. John Stein, the new Special Assistant to the Ambassador, arrived in Seoul on 22 September. He will be given a briefing on Bureau operations at the earliest opportunity.

II. OPERATIONS

Editorial-Monitorial

1. The Asian Games directly or indirectly dominated media attention for the month in both the North and South. In the South, the ruling and opposition parties agreed to a political truce until after the Games over the increasingly contentious issue of constitutional reform. Thus, from about a week before the Asiad began the media was almost totally preoccupied with Games events and reportage.

2. In the North, the Games also affected media attention. From the beginning of the month until after the Games were well underway, DPRK media almost daily carried commentaries or articles denouncing the Asiad. And, as a prearranged means to create counter-attention to the Games, since mid-month there has been a run of VIP visitors to Pyongyang, starting with Nicaragua's Daniel Ortega (14-16 October), the USSR's Vasil Bilak (15-20), and Polish President Jaruzelski (24-29). PRC President Li Xiannian is scheduled to pay an official visit early in October and the GDR's Erich Honecker will visit later in the month. The visits have generated the usual volume of material in the way of speeches, talks, sightseeing, etc.

3. The other major event in the DPRK for the month, which has occasioned a great deal of attention, was a 5 September communique issued by the KPA Supreme Command announcing the transfer of 150,000 KPA soldiers from the frontline to peaceful economic construction activities. Pyongyang radio from that date has carried reportage on three rallies held in different areas of the country welcoming these "soldier-builders" to construction sites. The Bureau is closely following such transfer activities. We have also monitored two short film clips from Pyongyang TV on KPA construction activities, with the soldiers shown in uniform performing construction tasks.

III. ADMINISTRATION

A. Personnel

1. The Bureau's campaign to recruit Japanese monitors for Okinawa Bureau ended early in September. Two candidates, [] and [] accepted employment offers from Okinawa. It may be sometime in November before local security investigations and other employment processing are completed

STAT
STAT

2. Korean monitor [] who doubles as the Bureau's part-time cruising monitor, was on TDY in Okinawa from 7-13 September for training by Okinawa Bureau's cruising staff.

STAT

3. Bureau employees had two weddings to choose from on the 13th, as Associate Editor [] and Korean monitor [] both were married. After brief honeymoons, both returned to work late in the month.

STAT

B. Building & Grounds

The Bureau has ordered air conditioning units for the editorial and main radio rooms, and expects to order a third unit for the communications room early in FY-87. The additional units are needed to supplement the Embassy's central air conditioning system, which is inadequate during the summer heat, and to counteract central heating in the winter, which is all too efficient and can only be regulated by Embassy maintenance workers. The new units should be delivered in November or December.

IV. VISITS

1. Chief of Analysis Group [] visited the Bureau from 2-7 September, as part of a tour of FBIS Far East bureaus and travel in the PRC. While in Seoul he was given a tour and briefing of the UN Command's Joint Security Area in the DMZ, and had detailed meetings with UNCMAC offices and representatives of the 8th Army's Psychological Operations office.

STAT

2. Okinawa Bureau Japanese/Korean monitor [] who was in Seoul on private travel, visited the Bureau on 22 and 26 September. On the 26th he met with the two applicants selected for monitorial positions in Okinawa as a result of recruiting in Seoul. [] was able to provide details on work and living conditions in Okinawa.

STAT

STAT

STAT

[]
Chief, Seoul Bureau

Attachment

Monthly Production Report

cc: Chief, Okinawa Bureau
Chief, Hong Kong Bureau

Second Bureau Production Report for September 1956

I. TOTALS FROM ALL SOURCES:

TOTAL PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	608700
TOTAL NON-PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	161670
TOTAL NUMBER OF PUBLISHABLE ITEMS FILED DURING MONTH:	1547

	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
II. INPUT OF REGULAR COVERAGE: (minutes or issues per week)	13265.00 min.	5510.00 min.	100.23 issues

III. OUTPUT FROM ALL SOURCES:
(publishable words per month)

CHINA		
Beijing International service in Korean to Korea	100	
Beijing City Service in Mandarin	400	
Changchun Jilin Provincial Service in Mandarin	8570	
Harbin Heilongjiang Provincial Service in Mandarin	5980	
Hohhot Nei Monggol Regional Service in Mandarin	8800	
Jinan Shandong Provincial Service in Mandarin	9590	
Shenyang Liaoning Provincial Service in Mandarin	5740	
Shijiazhuang Hebei Provincial Service in Mandarin	3130	
Tianjin City Service in Mandarin	500	
Beijing BEIJING RIBAO in Chinese		6850
Changchun JILIN RIBAO in Chinese		1210
Harbin HEILONGJIANG RIBAO in Chinese		1460
Jinan DAZHONG RIBAO in Chinese		0
Shenyang DONGBEI JINGJI BAO in Chinese		3150
Shenyang LIAONING RIBAO in Chinese		6700
Shijiazhuang HEBEI RIBAO in Chinese		7620

BROAD-
CASTSPRESS
AGENCIESPUBLI-
CATIONSTianjin TIANJIN RIBAO in
Chinese

4270

CLANDESTINE

(Clandestine) Voice of National Salvation in
Korean to South Korea

24460

KOREA (NORTH)

Pyongyang Domestic Service in
Korean

231380

Pyongyang Television Service in
Korean

0

Pyongyang KCNA in
English

181280

Pyongyang Editorial Report on DPRK
Korean

300

Pyongyang KULLOJA in
Korean

3400

Pyongyang NODONG SINMUN in
Korean

0

KOREA (SOUTH)

Seoul Domestic Service in
Korean

4280

Seoul Television Service in
Korean

400

Seoul YONHAP in
English

19780

Seoul CHOSON ILBO in
Korean

920

Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in
Korean

2500

Seoul Editorial Report on ROK Media
Korean

900

Seoul HANGUK ILBO in
Korean

150

Seoul KYONGHYANG SINMUN in
Korean

1300

Seoul SEOUL SINMUN in
Korean

800

Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in
English

17410

Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in
English

37870

Seoul TONG-A ILBO in
Korean

0

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Moscow International Service in
Korean

2500